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FLOOR DEBATE

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new animal identification requirement. The standards for states to quality is consistent states, and that's what we're doing, trying to make Nebraska a consistent state with all the rest of them, so some of the requirements or the duties that will be carried out to make us a consistent state are they'll have the authority to restrict the movement of scrapie-infected animals and find the source and expose flocks. They're required to develop a flock plan to eliminate scrapies. They will designate high-risk and exposed animals. They will conduct trace back activities, monitor and enforce scrapies quarantines, and enforce reporting laws. They will develop regulations. They will educate producers, and they will have the authority to enforce identification requirements. I'd finally point out that it's anticipated the Department of Agriculture can carry out the duties of this without any more resources, as will be noted on the fiscal note. The Bureau of Animal Industry would take the authority of this bill, but they anticipate that they would not be very many unless there was a sudden outbreak of scrapies somewhere. The USDA has allocated funding for indemnification, surveillance, testing, and tagging costs that are provided directly to the producer. Also draw to your attention that a handout that I passed around is probably a lot more detail than you ever wanted to know about scrapies, but it answers some of the questions that you might have. Thank you for your attention. I'd ask you to advance LB 158.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Kremer. There are committee amendments, as stated. Senator Kremer, you're recognized, as Chairman, to open on those committee amendments to LB 158.

SENATOR KREMER: Okay. The committee amendments on LB 158 are really incorporating LB 159, which is a...also an eradication program, but it deals with pseudorabies in swine. The federal state industry program for eradicating scrapie...or, I'm still on scrapies...pseudorabies in swine was initiated in 1989 under the coordination of the leadership of APHIS, which is the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service. The federal eradication program is a voluntary program primarily guiding the states in the implementation of eradication efforts on the state and local level. Under the program, USDA establishes uniform standards